



Summer Food Service Program



Bulletin

Child Nutrition Programs
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To: SFSP Sponsors
Program Reviewers

Date: May 13, 2014

Bulletin: 2014-05

From: Alicia Stephens
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Subject: USDA Policy Memos and Information

USDA Policy Memos, Information & Implementation Memos:

1. SFSP15-2014 – Area Eligibility Using Census Data
2. SFSP16-2014 – Streamlined and Simplified Summer Food Service Program Requirements FAQs
3. SFSP17-2014 – Sharing Aggregate Data to Expand Program Access and Services in Child Nutrition Programs

To view previous USDA policy memos, visit:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy>

Additional Topics

- Resources for Summer Food Program Enrichment
- National SFSP Awareness Week
- Application and Deadline Reminders

Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Services office if you need further clarification.

USDA Policy Memos, Information & Implementation Memos:

1. SFSP15-2014 – **Area Eligibility Using Census Data** This memo announces the allowance of additional flexibility in using census data for area eligibility determinations in Child Nutrition Programs. SFSP sites may now be determined area eligible using either Census Block Groups (CBGs) or Census Tracts using up to three adjacent CBGs with a weighted average of at least 40 percent of children eligible for free and reduced priced meals. State agency and Regional Office approval are required for these sites using this new eligibility standard.
2. SFSP16-2014 – **Streamlined and Simplified Summer Food Service Program Requirements FAQs** As a part of Food and Nutrition Services efforts to expand participation in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), this memorandum provides answers to frequently asked questions regarding the administration of the SFSP, highlighting new and existing flexibilities for program operators and sites.
3. SFSP17-2014 – **Sharing Aggregate Data to Expand Access and Services in Child Nutrition Programs** This memo is to remind State agencies and all Child Nutrition Program sponsors about data sharing requirements and opportunities. Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators may disclose student-specific eligibility status to other CNP operators to expedite children's eligibility certification for these programs.

- **Resources for Summer Program Enrichment**

- Firstbook.org offers **low-cost books** to organizations serving children in need. [First Book](http://FirstBook) and the No Kid Hungry Campaign have teamed up to add a helping of books to the food, friends and fun at summer meal sites this summer. These engaging titles are sure to get kids excited about summer!

As a summer meals provider, you are automatically eligible to purchase low-cost books through First Book. To get your library started, we've created collections for children ages 6 through 14 (not sure if this is the right range, but think it's easier to digest to give ages). You can sign up and choose 20 books for \$25 or 40 books for \$50!

To access this great deal:

1. If you aren't yet registered, [sign up](#) with First Book
2. Check out the [Summer Fun Starter Kit Book Collections](#)
3. Purchase book collections for \$25 or \$50
4. Add reading activities to your site this summer

- Cookingmatters.org is a great, free resource for recipes, guides with hands-on instructions for involving youth in the process of preparing their food, handouts and lessons/activities for kids, and ideas for cooking demos and working with community partners. They also have a free downloadable application.

- **National SFSP Awareness Week**

- June 2nd through the 6th is National SFSP Awareness Week. Host a kick-off event such as a movie night or barbecue and invite families and children in the community to your site to help spread the word about your summer food site!

- **Application Deadline Reminder**

- Applications are required annually to participate in SFSP. Please submit your applications at least 30 days prior to your first day of service or by **June 15, 2014** at the very latest. We just completed our fifth and final training, so everyone should be well underway in the application process. As always, please contact myself or Alexis using our contact information below with any questions!

Calendar of Upcoming Events & Deadlines	
National SFSP Awareness Week	June 2-6, 2014
Final day to submit SFSP Applications <u>All applications must be submitted</u> <i>no later</i>	June 15, 2014

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Commonly Used Acronyms

SFSP – Summer Food Service Program

CNP – Child Nutrition Programs

WRO – Western Region Office

FNS – Food & Nutrition Services

FNSRO-Food & Nut Services Reg. Office

USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture

SA – State Agency

DEC – Department of Conservation

LEA – Local Education Agency



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